



July 2011

# North Etobicoke LIP Updates

## North Etobicoke LIP Launch Phase II

To launch Phase II (April 2011-March 2012) and showcase the achievement in Phase I (September 2009-March 2011), North Etobicoke Local Immigration Partnership (LIP) held a summit “**Working Together to Build a Welcoming Community**” on June 28<sup>th</sup> at Woodbine Convention Centre. More than 150 attendees came together to make the day eventful. Participants included 76 representatives from 47 community organizations, government agencies or business groups, and 27 residents from 7 ethno-cultural groups. Indeed, we would not have accomplished this work without all the partners’ contributions, support, commitment and hard work. Below is a snapshot of the summit program. You could also find highlighted photos on pages 2-3.

**Welcome** *Ethno Cultural Seniors Program Choir Group*

**Welcome Remarks** *Dr. Kirsty Duncan, MP Etobicoke North*

**Keynote Remarks** *Caroline Andrew, Welcoming Communities Initiative*

**Highlights Presentations**

- **North Etobicoke Community Snapshot** *Harvey Low, City of Toronto, Social Policy Analysis and Research*
- **Collaboration Toolkit** *Grace Varrecchia, Toronto Employment and Social Services*
- **North Etobicoke Local Settlement Strategy** *Richard De Gaetano, Social Planning Toronto*

**Welcome Remarks** *Dr. Shafiq Qaadri, MPP Etobicoke North*

**Lunch Break** *Steel Pan Band Performance*

**Panel Discussion** *Moderated by John Campey, Social Planning Toronto*

- **Service Coordination** *Debbie Douglas, Ontario Council of Agencies Serving Immigrants*
- **Employment and Labour Market** *John Alderdice, City of Toronto, Economic Development and Culture Division*
- **Education and Language Training** *Melinda Kao, Humber Institute of Technology and Advanced Learning*
- **Civic Engagement** *Christiana Mbazigwe, Women’s Creative Club International*
- **Future Path of the Local Immigration Partnerships** *Mary Barr, Citizenship and Immigration Canada*
- **Questions & Answers**

**Resident Reflections** *Robert Koil, Aubrey McNaughton, Munir Raza*

**Service Provider Reflection** *Qaiser Khan, YWCA-JUMP*

**Work Groups Presentation and Registration**

**Closing Remarks** *Councillor Vincent Crisanti, Ward 1,  
Jane Holmes, Woodbine Entertainment Group*

In addition, we would like to acknowledge Richard De Gaetano, LIP Partnership Council member and Community Planner of Social Planning Toronto, who wrote an article on the Phase I of North Etobicoke LIP in Soundbites e-Bulletin of Social Planning Toronto. The article could be found at Social Planning Toronto’s website, [socialplanningtoronto.org](http://socialplanningtoronto.org).

For further information, please see page 4 to keep updated on other projects and events that North Etobicoke LIP is working on. Your contribution and participation is always appreciated to help us build a welcoming community in North Etobicoke.

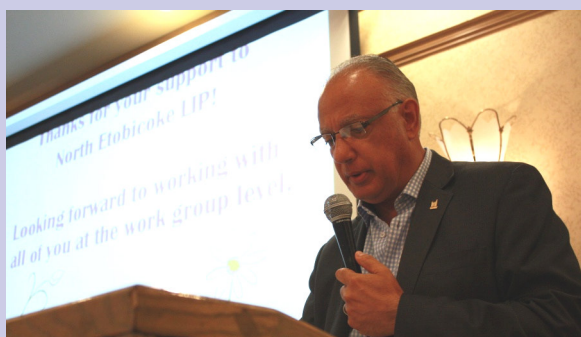
## Highlights of North Etobicoke LIP Summit



Welcome Remarks, Dr. Kirsty Duncan, MP



Welcome Remarks, Dr. Shafiq Qaadri, MPP



Closing Remarks, Councillor Vincent Crisanti



Closing Remarks, Jane Holmes, Woodbine Entertainment



Keynote Remarks  
Caroline Andrew, Welcoming Communities Initiative



North Etobicoke Community Snapshot Presentation  
Harvey Low, City of Toronto



Collaboration Toolkit Presentation  
Grace Varrecchia, Toronto Employment and Social Services



North Etobicoke Local Settlement Strategy Presentation  
Richard De Gaetano, Social Planning Toronto



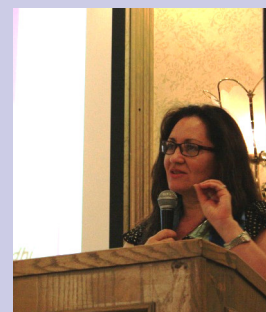
## Highlights of North Etobicoke LIP Summit



National Anthem, Ethno Cultural Seniors Program Choir Group



Jerry Jerome & the Cardells Steel Pan Band



Fatima Filippi,  
Rexdale Women's Centre



Resident Reflection, Robert Koil



Resident Reflection  
Munir Raza



Service Provider Reflection  
Qaiser Khan, YWCA-JUMP



Panel Discussion



Work Groups Presentation  
Elizabeth Bethune, North Etobicoke LIP



North Etobicoke LIP staff with some Partnership Council members



North Etobicoke LIP partners at the summit

# How to Get Involved in North Etobicoke LIP

## LIP Work Groups

The new structure of North Etobicoke LIP work groups (ie. Service Development Work Group, Outreach and Service Coordination Work Group, Education and Language Training Work Group, Employment Work Group) was introduced at the summit. LIP staff are currently finalizing the registration list. The first round of work groups will be held on August 10th and 18th. If you are interested in registering or would like to know more information about the work groups, please contact us.

## Community Advisory Council

North Etobicoke LIP is creating a Community Advisory Council in partnership with Action for Neighbourhood Change-Rexdale and Rexdale Neighbourhood Action Partnership,

- To provide the Partnership Council with feedback and information on strategies, approaches and ongoing community needs
- To provide community residents with a voice in decisions that affect them and their quality of life, how services are delivered with respect to settlement and have more meaningful involvement in building a more welcoming community in North Etobicoke
- To provide a means of mutual support for other members, which extends to recent immigrants
- To allow residents to be informed and to provide space for discussion about strategies for improvement

LIP staff are currently recruiting the community members to sit on the Council and will be holding a Town Hall meeting to launch the Community Advisory Council.

## Employer Engagement

North Etobicoke LIP is planning to hold a meet and greet with employers and employment service providers to provide immigrants settlement and employment organizations and service providers with a clearer and better understanding of the labour demands, needs, challenges and expectations of employers in North Etobicoke.

LIP is networking with Toronto Employment and Social Services, Economic Development and Culture Division and the Business Improvement Area to bring resources to employers so that they can be aware of the various programs, services available to support the hiring, integration, training and retention of skilled immigrants, etc.

## LIP Website

Information sharing is identified as one of the key steps of multi-sectoral coordination. Many partners are involved in our local LIP but not all can attend meetings, events or workgroup sessions to access the depth of information produced. The reports and files are sometimes too large to transfer via email. Having a website will be instrumental in keeping shareholders abreast with the LIP process in our locality.

LIP staff are working with website developer to finalize the content and graphic design. A section for Community Events will be introduced to all the partners, to provide a platform to share information on workshops, programs, community forums and other activities in North Etobicoke.

### North Etobicoke Local Immigration Partnership

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